



Transit Planning Board

WORKING TOGETHER — CONNECTING OUR REGION

TPB CHAIRMAN THANKS REGIONAL PARTNERS FOR SUCCESSFUL PROJECT LAUNCH

Pilot Program Sets the Stage for Future Regional Collaboration

On Monday, November 20, 2006, Cobb Community Transit (CCT) and the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) successfully launched a pilot program that will allow both agencies to better meet customer needs along the northwest corridor.

Through a joint agreement, CCT Route 10 and MARTA Route 12 now provide direct bus service between the Cumberland Transfer Center and MARTA's Arts Center rail station, picking up passengers along the route and across county lines.

The first passenger for the new service boarded just before 5:00 a.m. Monday morning at the Cumberland Transfer Center. A resident of Cobb County, the customer had been taking CCT to the county line and then walking three miles to their job at the North Creek Office park as the bus was not allowed to make stops once it entered Fulton County. Today, that customer and others like them are able to remain on board and exit at their true destination without risking dangerous road conditions or inclement weather.

"This is one small but significant example of how we can better serve transit customers by working together as a region," said Transit Planning Board Chairman Eldrin Bell. "CCT and MARTA deserve great credit for making this happen and I want to thank them for their leadership. The success of this pilot program sets the stage for future collaboration between all of our regional partners and underscores the importance of the Transit Planning Board's mission."

The pilot program was endorsed by the Transit Planning Board (TPB) in October and approved by both the Cobb County Commission and the MARTA Board of Directors earlier this month. TPB staff will monitor the two routes and report findings and any recommendations for additional improvements back to Board members.

Customers should check the provider's websites at www.cobbdot.org or www.itsmarta.com for schedule information. Customers pay at the point of boarding and transfers between the two systems are free.

The Transit Planning Board consists of 18 voting members including the Commission Chairs of Clayton, Cobb, Fulton, Gwinnett, Cherokee, Douglas, Fayette, Henry and Rockdale Counties, the CEO of DeKalb County, the Mayor of Atlanta, three gubernatorial appointees, the GRTA Board Chair, the GDOT Board Chair, the MARTA Board Chair and the MARTA General Manager. The Board's work focuses on improving transit service through regional cooperation.